



TOWN OF CHESHIRE
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TO: Town Council
FROM: Sean M. Kimball, Town Manager
SUBJECT: Town Manager's Report – November 2022
DATE: November 15, 2022

Budget Referendum Results

Cheshire voters supported both capital budget referendum questions by significant margins:

1. \$2,400,000 for the Road Improvement Program – YES 9,759 (73%) to NO 3,643 (27%)
2. \$166,600,000 for Two New Elementary Schools – YES 7,944 (59%) to NO 5,487 (41%)

Thank you to everyone who worked hard in the development of these projects and thank you to all of our Town residents who came out to cast their vote!

Special DPW Collection Events

The Town has scheduled the following special collections for certain items not permitted to be disposed in either the regular trash:

Mattress Recycling & Electronics Recycling Event (Two Events - Same Location)

Saturday, November 19, 2022 – 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Quinnipiac Park, 1325 Cheshire Street.

Reminder: Up to 7 Electronics may be recycled every Saturday, 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM, AJ Waste/CCRT at 22 Burton Drive, Cheshire, CT

<http://www.ajwastesystems.com/our-services/ccrt/>

Town-Wide Curbside Leaf Collection

The annual town-wide leaf collection will run from November 7th – December 12th. Leaves must be placed curbside in biodegradable bags before 7:00 a.m. Mondays for pick-up by the Public Works Department. Residents may also bring leaves in biodegradable bags for disposal at the Public Works Garage, 1286 Waterbury Road on Monday mornings from 7:30-8:30 AM on 11/7, 11/14, 11/21, 11/28, 12/5, and 12/12.

New Director of Public Works & Engineering

I'm very pleased to announce that **Gary Fuerstenberg, P.E.** will be Cheshire's new Director of Public Works & Engineering. Gary comes to us from the Town of Newington where he has served as Town Engineer and a leader of their Public Works team for the past 5 years. The Town of Newington does not have a position of Director of Public Works and their Town Manager explained that Gary's function there is most analogous to Cheshire's Director of Public Works & Engineering position. Gary is a licensed professional engineer in 12 states with a Masters in Civil and Environmental Engineering along with 20 years of experience prior to the Town of Newington, and has also taught engineering courses at the University of Hartford. Gary also recently successfully completed the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) – Certified CT Municipal Official professional development program. Gary's first day with the Town will be Monday, December 5th.

Tax Collector Retirement and Recruitment

After 19 years with the Cheshire Tax Office, our Collector of Revenue, William Donlin has decided to embark on a well-deserved retirement effective December 31st. Bill has been tremendously dedicated and innovative throughout his time with the Town, and is immensely proud of his record of consistently achieving an approximate 99.7% collection rate, often highest in the State of Connecticut from year to year. We wish Bill all of the best and know he will enjoy increased quality time with his grandchildren.

The Collector of Revenue position was advertised over the past few weeks and interviews are being scheduled in the coming days of those applicants selected to proceed.

Parks and Recreation Offerings

The Great Turkey Hunt

The Third Annual Great Turkey Hunt will be held on November 17, 2022 from 6:30-7:30pm! This program is only open to Cheshire residents. Participants must pre-register for this program that will have you following clues to various locations around Cheshire. Participants will be emailed their clues at the start of the event, or you can request a printed copy to pick up at the Youth Center, if you prefer. The clues will lead to several turkeys and one chicken that are set up at parks and landmarks around town. If you find a cutout, bring it to the Youth Center where you can trade it in for a gift basket, courtesy of Chick-fil-A in Wallingford. Please register no later than 4:00 p.m. on 11/17/2022. This is a FREE event.

Annual Tree Lighting

Cheshire's Annual Tree Lighting that will be held on **December 4, 2022 from 5pm-7pm at Bartlem Park**. This event kicks off the season's theme, Home for the Holidays. It's an event you won't want to miss! Elves will be roaming around with surprises for the kids, kids can make their own reindeer food and be sure to sample some roasted chestnuts or have a cup of cocoa provided by the Junior Women's Club while enjoying music provided by Mazzone Brothers Productions. There will be caroling, a handbell performance and of course Santa will make a special appearance to turn on the tree lights. No registration needed, just come and have a great time with your community friends and family.

Nights of Lights & Sights

Let's brighten up Cheshire this December! Residents are encouraged to decorate your yard, front door, whole home or even just a window. Please illuminate your display during the evenings from December 1 - December 31 for all to enjoy. Beginning on December 1, the official competition judges will drive to registered households to judge the displays. Winners will be announced in mid-December and will receive a lawn sign to celebrate their victory! To participate in the competition you must pre-register by November 30, 2022. Only one member of each household needs to register. Displays should be lit each evening from December 1 - December 31.

Upcoming Town Council & Committee Meetings:

Ordinance Review Committee Meeting

November 22, 2022 at 6:30pm, Room 207/209, Town Hall

Town Council Budget Committee Meeting

December 13, 2022 at 6:30pm, Council Chambers, Town Hall

Town Council Regular Meeting

December 13, 2022 at 7pm, Council Chambers, Town Hall